

Boulevard Planning Group
MINUTES/SUMMARY, OCTOBER 7, 2010
Boulevard Fire and Rescue Inc. Training Room, 39919 Highway 94/Ribbonwood

1) CALL TO ORDER at 7:00 PM.

2) DETERMINATION OF QUORUM/ROLL CALL: Members present: Tammy Daubach, Audra Hall, Jeffrey McKernan, Chris Noland, Patricia Stuart, Donna Tisdale (Chair). Excused Absence: Cheryl Lenz

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES: M/S Hall/Stuart to approve the September 2, 2010 minutes. Passed: 5-0-0. (Chris Noland came late to the meeting after the approval of the minutes)

4) CORRESPONDENCE: No correspondence other than agenda items.

5) NEW BUSINESS:

A. NEW COMMUNITY ROOM: The Planning Group reviewed a draft letter of appreciation to be sent to Supervisor Dianne Jacob.

M/S Hall/Stuart to approve the letter as written to be sent to Supervisor Dianne Jacob and to ask planner Lenz to draft a similar letter to Chief Francois. Passed 6-0-0.

B. WIND ENERGY ORDINANCE (POD 10-007) NOTICE OF EIR PREPARATION: The Planning Group and members of the public, including the consultant for multiple projects, discussed sending a letter containing our previous comments as well as some new comments.

M/S McKernan/Stuart to send in updated comments, insisting that the Wind Energy Ordinance EIR include large scale wind turbines, as we previously requested. Reiterate the need for adequate standard turbine set-back of at least 1.5 to 2 miles from occupied buildings, recreation areas, public roads, protected habitat and wildlife, and more. Request a lower height limit of 65 feet for small turbines and refer to Oct 29-31 International Symposium on The Global Wind Industry and Adverse Health Effects. Submit these comments, incorporating our previous wind energy comments by reference, by the October 11 deadline. Passed 6-0-0

C. PUBLIC HEARINGS: SEMPRA'S ENERGIA SIERRA JUAREZ (ESJ) WIND ENERGY PROJECT: There was a discussion of the Oct 5, 6 & 7 DOE hearings on the ESJ Draft EIS.

M/S Hall/Noland to send updated comments with a request to include the Sunrise Powerlink as a Connected Action, list other cumulative impact projects, and the new Border Patrol Station. Passed 6-0-0.

6. UPDATES AND POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS:

A. GENERAL PLAN, COMMUNITY PLAN, PLANNING GROUP ALTERNATIVES:

The Chair encouraged the public to attend and speak at the October 20th Board of Supervisors hearing on the General Plan Update. Options were reviewed and discussed.

M/S McKernan/Stuart to write a letter of continued support for the General Plan Draft Land Use Permit (same as recommended project for Boulevard). Passed 6-0-0.

M/S McKernan/Hall to oppose the Stakeholder's August White Paper and Conservation Subdivisions. Passed 6-0-0.

M/S Noland/McKernan to support continued Planning Group participation "as is" with better training with required certified completion of training for Planning Group members and liability insurance to cover Planning Group member and the County. Passed 6-0-0.

B. SDG&E'S BOULEVARD COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING: No new information.

C. SUNRISE POWERLINK, ECO-SUBSTATION, TULE WIND, ESJ: Chair reported that SDG&E tried to dismiss the lawsuit against the Sunrise Powerlink. BLM has not yet given SDG&E permission to proceed with the project on federal land. A report was given on the 3 Dept. of Energy hearings on the Energia Sierra Juarez Draft EIS for Semptra Generation's Presidential Permit Application. Golden Eagles are a major issue now.

D. ROUGH ACRES RANCH SUNRISE CONSTRUCTION YARD AND POTENTIAL SOLAR PROJECT: The Chair reported that she and planner Noland had visited the UCSD test site, with Jim Whalan and Phoebe Hamann, for the large Concentrix Solar generator unit that tracks the sun (www.concentrix-solar.com). Concentrix units are being considered for a solar project on Rough Acres Ranch east of McCain Valley Road. Jim Whalan gave the Planning Group an update. He was unsure if Notice To Proceed had been issued. He passed around a picture of Concentrix unit. He claimed that no grading is needed. He discussed the 4 pending Major Use Permits (MUP) for Rough Acres. **1)** MUP for 12 turbines included in Iberdrola's Tule Wind. **2)** MUP for Hamann subdivision, work programs (Set Free), conference center, and campground. **3)** MUP for wetland restoration/sand mining. **4)** MUP for solar project. Date unknown.

E. BOULEVARD REVITALIZATION REPORT: Recognition was given to McCain Valley Conservation Camp for manufacturing the podium for the Boulevard Training Center at the request of planner Lenz.

7. PRESENTATION FROM THE FLOOR ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: **1)** Planner Daubach announced the Oct 25 Fire Safe Council meeting at 6:30 at the Jacumba Fire station. **2)** Jim Whalan said he will send out a letter to Chandra Waller (before she retires) at the County on forming a redevelopment area for Boulevard. This was not well received based on concerns it would be of greater benefit to developers than the community. **3)** La Posta tribe will help Jacumba Library with native planting. **4)** Border Patrol Agent Anderson reported that approximately \$30 million in funding was approved for the new Boulevard Border Patrol Station on Ribbonwood Road. Construction to start around May 2011. Looking at designs. 224 National Guard are working with BP agents at 10 stations in the County.

8) ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm. Minutes are submitted by Tammy Daubach, Secretary.

**For more information, contact
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